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LETTER DATED 23 APRIL 1992 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF AUSTRIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit a letter dated 23 April 1992, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Alois Mock, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria, requesting an urgent meeting of the Security Council on the deteriorating situation in Bosnia-Hercegovina which is endangering international peace and security.

I would be grateful if you had this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Thomas HAJNOCZI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Letter dated 23 April 1992 from the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria addressed to the President of the Security Council

The Austrian Government is alarmed by the development of the situation in the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina, where the aggression against its independence and territorial integrity by the Yugoslav National Army and the paramilitary forces not under the authority of the government of that Republic is endangering international peace and security, thereby violating fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

The Security Council has repeatedly urged all parties to that conflict to settle their conflicts peacefully and through negotiation and to abide strictly by cease-fire agreements expressing its full support for the peace efforts of the member States of the European Community.

With the attacks of the Yugoslav National Army and the paramilitary forces, the situation in Bosnia-Hercegovina has dramatically deteriorated. This aggression endangers the success of the collective peace efforts undertaken within the framework of the Conference on Yugoslavia by the European Community as well as those by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe not only in Bosnia-Hercegovina but also in Croatia.

At the plenary session of the Helsinki Follow-up Meeting on 15 April 1992, the participating States expressed their "special alarm at the intensified violence and fighting in Bosnia-Hercegovina". They called upon the neighbouring States of Bosnia-Hercegovina "to refrain from any acts of interference" and demanded "the withdrawal of all military and paramilitary forces" from Bosnia-Hercegovina. Furthermore, "they condemned the violation by Serbian irregular forces and by the Yugoslav National Army of the independence and territorial integrity of and human rights in Bosnia-Hercegovina and urged the Government of Serbia to discontinue its support for such actions".

The fighting in Bosnia-Hercegovina is causing a heavy loss of human life and material damage. An extremely preoccupying humanitarian situation has been created, hundreds of thousands of persons have been forced from their homes.

The Security Council should take appropriate steps to bring about an effective cease-fire, support all processes towards a peaceful solution of the conflict with a view to fully restoring the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Bosnia-Hercegovina as well as to facilitate necessary humanitarian relief efforts.

I have, therefore, the honour to request an urgent meeting of the Security Council on this subject.

Alois MOCK
Federal Minister for
Foreign Affairs of Austria